

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12
NEA-10 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08
EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-10
INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OMB-01
PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /188 R

DRAFTED BY OES/OFA/OCA:RTSCULLY:HHB
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OES/OFA/FA - MR. STORER
EA/ANP - MR. HURWITZ
NOAA - MR. WALLACE

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R 262313Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 107098

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PLOS, XV, EFIS, PU

SUBJECT: ANTARCTIC DISCUSSIONS RE CONTINENTAL MARGIN
MAP AND FAO

REFERENCE: GENEVA 05821

FOR WULF, LOSDEL

1. DEPARTMENT APPRECIATES REPORT (REFTEL) ON DISCUSSION
AMONG CONSULTATIVE PARTY REPS OF SECRETARIAT SPONSORED
CONTINENTAL MARGIN MAP AND UPCOMING MEETING OF FAO
COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES (COFI).

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2. DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH VIEW THAT IT IS NOT DESIRABLE
FOR TREATY PARTIES TO DISCUSS ANTARCTIC ISSUES IN
COMMITTEE II. NO USEFUL PURPOSE COULD BE SERVED BY SUCH
DEBATE. AS DISCUSSED IN SCULLY-CLINGAN TELCON, WE BELIEVE
FACT THAT CONTINENTAL MARGIN MAP COVERS ANTARCTICA SHOULD
NOT IN ITSELF BE CONSTRUED AS HAVING POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

IN ADDITION, TREATY PARTIES SHOULD TREAT IT IN LOW KEY FASHION TO MINIMIZE POSSIBILITIES THAT IT COULD BE USED AS VEHICLE FOR INTRODUCING ANTARCTIC ISSUES IN LOS CONFERENCE.

3. WITH REGARD TO FAO, AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF CALLED AT DEPARTMENT APRIL 25 ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM CANBERRA TO REPORT ON STEPS GOA HAS TAKEN TO HEAD OFF POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO POLITICIZE ANTARCTIC ISSUE AT JUNE COFI MEETING. REPORT WHICH CENTERED ON AMBASSADOR BRENNAN'S ACTIVITIES INCLUDED IN FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- AUSTRALIAN REP TO FAO INDO-PACIFIC FISHERIES COUNCIL IN MARCH RECEIVED INFORMAL COPY OF DRAFT PAPER ON SOUTHERN OCEAN FOR UPCOMING COFI MEETING.

-- PAPER, WHICH POSED NUMBER OF PROBLEMS FOR AUSTRALIA AND OTHER TREATY PARTIES, WAS INFORMALLY DISCUSSED AT CANBERRA SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING (SCM).

-- AMBASSADOR BRENNAN, AS FORESEEN AT SCM, HAS BEEN ACTING TO COORDINATE VIEWS OF TREATY PARTIES ON THIS ISSUE AT LOS CONFERENCE AND HAS CONTACTED JOAN CARROZ, FAO REP AT LOS CONFERENCE TO SEEK REVISION OF FAO PAPER.

-- BRENNAN REPORTS THAT HIS EFFORTS WITH CARROZ HAVE
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BORNE FRUIT AND CARROZ HAS PREPARED REVISED PAPER WHICH HAS REMOVED OBJECTIONABLE FEATURES OF FIRST DRAFT. REVISED PAPER IS IN BRENNAN'S VIEW ACCEPTABLE TO GOA.

-- BRENNAN AND CHILEAN REP ZEGERS MET WITH CARROZ AND COFI CHAIRMAN MARIO RUIVO (PORTUGAL) APRIL 19 TO DISCUSS REVISED PAPER. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY BY CARROZ REGARDING ATTITUDE OF FAO FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SECRETARIAT TO REVISED PAPER, RUIVO ASSERTED THAT REVISED PAPER WAS ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY TO HIM AND CARROZ SHOULD SO INFORM SECRETARIAT.

4. AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF ASKED FOR U.S. REACTION GOA PRESENTATION. IN REPLY FOLLOWING POINTS WERE MADE:

-- U.S. APPRECIATES GOA AND SPECIFICALLY AMBASSADOR BRENNAN'S ROLE IN ACTING AS COORDINATOR IN GENEVA AND IN APPROACHING CARROZ.

-- WE ARE PLEASED TO LEARN THAT REVISION OF THE COFI PAPER HAS BEEN PREPARED. BASED ON TALKING POINTS FOR HIS MEETING WITH CARROZ WHICH BRENNAN PASSED TO US IN GENEVA, WE

WOULD ANTICIPATE THAT REVISED PAPER WOULD ALSO BE SATISFACTORY TO U.S., THOUGH WE HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED COPY.

-- U.S. WOULD CAUTION THAT REVISION IN COFI PAPER DOES NOT IN ITSELF ENSURE THAT ISSUE IS RESOLVED FOR JUNE

MEETING. FACT THAT CONSULTATIVE PARTIES HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO INDICATE WHETHER FAO WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE AS OBSERVER AT DECISIVE MEETING IN ONGOING LIVING RESOURCE NEGOTIATIONS MAY CREATE INCREASED RECEPTIVITY WITHIN COFI TO MAKE ANTARCTIC ISSUES MAJOR SUBJECT OF POLITICAL DEBATE.

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-- U.S. STUDYING HOW BEST TO DEAL WITH FAO OFFICIALS ON THIS MATTER.

5. AUSTRALIAN EMBOFF ALSO REPORTED (AS IN PARA 5 REFTTEL) THAT GOA HAD APPROACHED FAO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S ATTACHE DE CABINET SHAH ON THIS ISSUE. WE WERE NON-COMMITAL AS TO US APPROACH TO SHAH AT THIS TIME. FYI. IT IS OUR CURRENT VIEW THAT WE SHOULD SAVE WHAT CAPITAL WE HAVE WITH FAO BUREACRACY INCLUDING SHAH FOR COFI MEETING ITSELF, UNLESS REVISIONS IN ORIGINAL COFI PAPER UNDERTAKEN BY CARROZ COME UNSTUCK PRIOR TO JUNE MEETING. END FYI.

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